utilising a wider resources base (as it can be produced from gas, coal and biomass) while ethanol could also be considered if research and development in cellulosic conversion to ethanol or other bio-solar technologies are successful and lead to vastly increased quantities of ethanol. The Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources is spearheading R&D in all these areas. As a result, the technology for the use of methanol in engines to replace diesel upto 15 to 20 per cent has been developed in co-operation with the Indian Institute of Petroleum, Dehradun. The introduction of methanol also results in marked improvement in the quality of exhaust due to significant reduction in smoke and noxious oxides.

The Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources followed this up by a R&D project for field trials. Under this programme, ten Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) buses are now running in Delhi in different routes with methanol/diesel fuel, so that feed back data of the performace of the vehicles & engines would be obtained under actual commuting conditions. The buses have already covered 4,00,000 kms. So far they have not faced any operational difficulty on account of methanol introduction. The trial also confirms the expected improvement in the quality of exhaust from the environmental point of view.

On ethanol, apart from demonstrating that ethanol can be used as a fuel in engines, R&D has resulted in the development of processes for efficient conversion of cellulosic material to ethanol. A pilot plant sponsored by Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources is under construction at the IIT, Delhi campus to develop these processes towards on industrial scale.

**Use of lead in petrol**

1935. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that India is using 3-4 times more lead in petrol than in other countries, leading to heavy pollution;

(b) whether research work undertaken by Goveernment on the subject has been completed, if so, with what results;

(c) whether Government are aware that EEC, Brazil Sweden and several other countries have stopped the use of tetra-lead and thereby reduced pollution greatly; and

(d) whether Government will ban the use of lead in petrol?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) to (d) The existing B.I.S. specifications or lead content in petrol in India is 0.56 gms/litre (maximum). The average lead content in 87 octane petrol presently produced in the refineries in the country varies from 0.10 to 0.45 gms|litre.

In some of the developed countries, the lead content in gasoline (Petrol) is limited to a maximum of 0.15 gms|litre. Some of them also market a separate grade of lead-free gasoline.

Based on studies undertaken in the country in this area, the Government has initiated action to bring down the lead content of petrol in India to 0.15 gms|litre maximum by installining additional facilities in the refineries, as required.

**STD facility in Rajasthan**

1936. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalised any plan to provide STD facility in more cities in the country during the years 1988-89 and 1989-90; and

(b) if so, the names of the cities which will be covered in Rajasthan during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRDHAR GOMANGO): (a) and

(b) Yes, Sir. The following stations in Rajasthan are planned for STD facility during 1988-89.

Barmer, Bansara, Bhilwara, Churu, Dungarpur, Jalore Jhunjhunu, Jhalwara, Sawaimadhopur, Sikar, Sirohi, Tonk, Jaisalmer, Chittorgarh.

**Employment to persons belonging to ethnic minorities in coal mines**

1937. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any amendment of the rules by the Bureau of Public Enterprises or other related institution has been made whereby during the last two years or as the ethnic minorities and displaced people are not being employed in coal mines of Coal India Limited and other Government owned collieries; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF): (a) and (b) The practice of compulsorily offering employment to those whose land is acquired for public sector projects has been discontinued with effect from 3-2-1986 in accordance with the guidelines prescribed in Bureau of Public Enterprises Circular-No. 15|13|84-BPE(C); dated 3rd February, 1986. However, the Coal Companies do offer employment to displaced persons against available vacancies on perferencial basis, subject to their suitability.

**Taping of telephones in Haryana**

1938. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Tribune of October 22, 1988, regarding the taped transcript of the telephone conversation between the Home Minister of Haryana and a police official;

(b) whether this tapping is genuine; and

(c) who is the authorized officer to intercept telephone calls in Haryana under Section 5 of the Indian Telegraph Act and who authorized the said officer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) The news item has come to the notice of the Government.

(b) and (c) The Department of Telecommunications has not received any request from State Government/Central Government for extending technical facilities for interception of telephone calls in Haryana. The Government has no further information in this regard.

**Proposal for setting up of super thermal power project at Manuguru**

1939. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal of the Government of Andhra Pradesh for setting up of a super Thermal Power Project of 2000 MW capacity near Manugru, Khammam district is included in the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, what is the amount sanctioned therefor; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPERGY be pleased to state:

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The project proposal could be considered for approval after various inputs, including coal supply, have been tied up and the requisite clearances including from the environmental and forestry angles are available.